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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,809	06/26/2003	Mark Kress	358281.00100	5478

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EXAMINER

WILLATT, STEPHANIE L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3732

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/606,809

Applicant(s)

KRESS, MARK

Examiner

Stephanie L. Willatt

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2003.
 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 June 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6 May 2004.
 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference characters "37" should probably be "36". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cobb in view of Fish.

Cobb discloses a powder dispenser comprising: a container (10), a gas conduit (pipe 15), a passageway (pipe 16), a first orifice (entrance 23), and second orifice (nozzle 21). The gas conduit (pipe 15) is disposed to direct a stream of gas onto a surface of powder to suspend the powder, lines 11-30 of page 2. The first orifice (entrance 23) provides a connection between the passageway (pipe 16) and an interior of the container (10). The powder exits the passageway (pipe 16) through the second orifice (nozzle 21), as described in lines 87-89 of page 1. A rubber bulb (19) in communication with the gas conduit (pipe 15) and provides the stream of gas through compression. The gas conduit (pipe 15) and passageway (pipe 16) are parallel to one another and go through a lid (cap 14) that closes the container (10).

Lines 15-23 of page 2 state that the "bulb 19 is connected to the pressure suction pipe 18, and is constructed without valves so that air or any fluid when drawn in, is forced to enter through the discharge pipe 16, causing the air to be saturated with powder to help to break it up..." This passage states that there should be no valves interfering with the path of air from the bulb into the container and into the discharge pipe 16. This passage does not ban all valves from the apparatus. In fact, line 89 of page 1 to line 5 of page 2 discusses the desire of preventing the powder from spilling if the container were to be turned upside down. Fish discloses the use of a first valve (disk 13) and a second valve (disk 13) for closing off all pathways when the dispenser is not being used, as discussed in lines 108-110 of page 1 and lines 19-25 of page 2. The first valve (disk 13) opens and closes communication between a gas conduit (tube 4) and the passageway (tube 3). The second valve opens and closes the connection

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between the passageway (tube 3) and an interior of a container (bottle 1). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the dispenser of Cobb with the valves taught by Fish, in order to provide yet another way to prevent powder from spilling from the container when it is turned upside down.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 6-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion


5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Thompson, Tromovitch, Rohrmuller, Wood, Hayes, Euverard, Shaukis, Hunter, Clark, Shaw, and Tremblay disclose fluid dispensers including bulbs. Tsukisaka and Pond et al. disclose particles for covering balding portions of scalps.

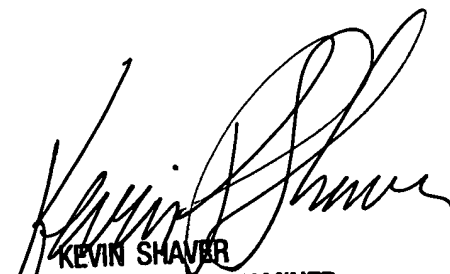
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephanie L. Willatt whose telephone number is (571) 272-4721. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin P. Shaver can be reached on (571) 272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


slw


KEVIN SHAVER
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